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# Manpower Highlights, Issue No. 18

Maine Department of Manpower Affairs

Maine Division of Manpower Research

Maine Labor Market Information

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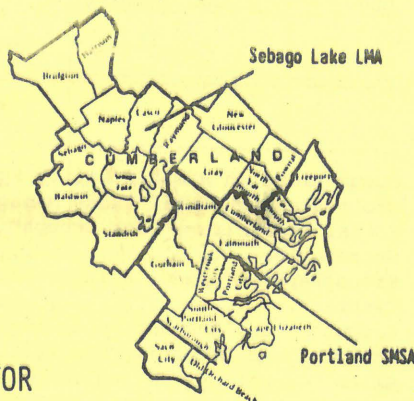
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Portland District

ISSUE NO. 18

SEPTEMBER 1979

# MANPOWER HIGHLIGHTS

A MONTHLY LABOR MARKET INFORMATION NEWSLETTER FOR  
CUMBERLAND COUNTY



This newsletter is normally released by the end of the month following the reference month.

## AREA DEFINITIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ECONOMY

- I. According to recent intercensal population estimates compiled by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Cumberland County's population increased by 7.3 percent between 1970 and 1978, or from 192,528 to 206,500.
- II. The United States Department of Labor has deleted the Portland Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) from its list of eligible labor surplus areas.

## OUTLOOK INFORMATION

Historically, very little change has occurred in either total employment or total unemployment between September and October. Indications are that this trend will hold true in 1979. However, certain industries, namely, food and kindred products and construction, are likely to have reduced employment due to seasonal influences.

## LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Area 1/	Labor Force 2/			Resident Employed			Unemployment Number			Unemployment Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Maine (in 000's) ..	500,000	499,600	492,000	471,100	469,800	467,900	28,900	29,800	24,100	5.8	6.0	4.9
Portland SMSA .....	83,400	83,700	84,300	79,500	79,800	80,800	3,900	3,900	3,500	4.7	4.7	4.2
Sebago Lake LMA .....	11,170	13,040	11,030	10,560	12,370	10,580	610	670	450	5.5	5.1	4.1

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas are not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each sub-state area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from six-month moving averages of the Current Population Survey. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis.

2/ This month and last month figures preliminary; year-ago figures revised.

## NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

### PORTLAND SMSA

Item	Number of Workers 1/			Net Change to Current Month from		Percentage Change to Current Month from		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Month	Year Ago	
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 2/	88.6	89.3	87.6	-0.7	+1.0	- 0.8	+ 1.1	
Manufacturing	17.4	17.9	16.1	-0.5	+1.3	- 2.8	+ 8.1	
Food and Kindred Products	2.3	2.4	2.3	-0.1	0.0	- 4.2	0.0	
Apparel and Other Finished Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	+0.1	0.0	+ 25.0	
Lumber and Wood Products, Furniture and Fixtures	0.4	0.5	0.5	-0.1	-0.1	- 20.0	- 20.0	
Printing, Publishing, and Allied Industries	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Leather and Leather Products	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Fabricated Metal Products	2.3	2.4	2.0	-0.1	+0.3	- 4.2	+ 15.0	
Machinery, except Electrical	2.1	2.1	1.9	0.0	+0.2	0.0	+ 10.5	
Electrical Machinery	1.9	1.9	1.6	0.0	+0.3	0.0	+ 18.8	
Transportation Equipment	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.0	+0.4	0.0	+133.3	
All Other Manufacturing	3.4	3.6	3.3	-0.2	+0.1	- 5.6	+ 3.0	
Nonmanufacturing	71.2	71.4	71.5	-0.2	-0.3	- 0.3	- 0.4	
Contract Construction	4.1	4.2	4.2	-0.1	-0.1	- 2.4	- 2.4	
Transportation, Communication, Electric, and Gas Services	5.4	5.5	5.3	-0.1	+0.1	- 1.8	+ 1.9	
Wholesale and Retail Trade	22.8	23.1	24.3	-0.3	-1.5	- 1.3	- 6.2	
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	7.2	7.3	6.8	-0.1	+0.4	- 1.4	+ 5.9	
Service and Other Nonmanufacturing	19.3	19.4	18.4	-0.1	+0.9	- 0.5	+ 4.9	
Government	12.4	11.9	12.5	+0.5	-0.1	+ 4.2	- 0.8	
Persons Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.1	0.0	0.9	+0.1	-0.8	+100.0	- 88.9	

1/ Figures in thousands. Figures for 1979 are preliminary, while 1978 figures are revised.

2/ Refers to persons on establishment payrolls for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Excludes persons involved in labor-management disputes, domestics in private households, nonfarm self-employed individuals, and unpaid family members.



LABOR SUPPLY AND DEMAND DATA

ACTIVE APPLICANTS AND UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS IN SELECTED OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS <sup>1/</sup>

Occupations	Job Applicants	Openings Received
Occupations in Administrative Specializations.....	31	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade Managers and Officials.....	25	1
Social and Welfare Work Occupations.....	64	0
Secretaries.....	54	11
Stenography, Typing, Filing, and Related Occupations.....	128	19
Cashiers.....	57	13
Computing and Account Recording Occupations.....	75	3
Shipping and Receiving Clerks.....	56	13
Sales Occupations, Miscellaneous Commodities.....	76	12
Waiters, Waitresses, and Related Food Service Occupations.....	77	32
Chefs and Cooks, Large Hotels and Restaurants.....	67	4
Attendants, Hospitals, Morgues, and Related Health Occupations.....	68	1
Porters and Cleaners.....	102	21
Motorized Vehicle and Engineering Equipment Mechanics and Repairers.....	53	8
Occupations in Assembly and Repair of Electronic Components and Accessories...	37	16
Occupations in Repair and Fabrication of Footwear.....	57	0
Carpenters and Related Occupations.....	81	23
Miscellaneous Construction Occupations.....	192	65
Truck Drivers, Heavy.....	31	6
Packaging Occupations.....	58	3
Packaging and Material Handling Occupations.....	53	17
Occupations in Moving and Storing Materials.....	294	63
Bookkeepers.....	24	6

<sup>1/</sup> Those occupations which have 35 or more active applicants.

Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System, Table 96. (Current Month.)

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED (CUMBERLAND COUNTY)

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Insured Unemployed Percent Distribution</u>
Male.....	49.6
Female.....	50.4
<u>Industry of Separation</u>	
Contract Construction.....	11.0
Manufacturing.....	26.6
Retail Trade.....	20.9
Services.....	18.2
All Other.....	23.3

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Possible Impact of Double-Digit Inflation On Local Labor Markets

Unless there is a substantial drop in the rate of inflation during the last two months of this year, the annual inflation rate will approach 14 percent in 1979. Locally, such an inflation rate will likely effect the economy in a number of ways. Some possible effects are:

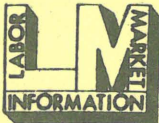
1. Large numbers of secondary wage earners, primarily women, may enter the job market in order to maintain current standards of living.
2. Strong pressures from employee organizations for wage increases which approach the inflation rate are likely.
3. A decline in real spendable income among local consumers could adversely effect the sale of goods and services.

The combined affect of these and other inflation induced events will in all likelihood have an effect on local labor market conditions. The influx of large numbers of new entrants into the labor market, at a time when the economy is cooling, will probably result in an increased level of unemployment. Even more importantly, the make-up of the available labor pool could change. Competition for available jobs may be keen among the various components of the labor force (namely--males, females, and youth). This competition would likely result in larger than current proportions of females and youth among the ranks of the unemployed. However, on a positive note, this type of labor pool could be an important inducement with regard to the expansion of existing industries or the establishment of new firms.

This newsletter is published monthly for distribution to the public. If additional information is desired, contact Michael P. Donahue, Manager for Labor Market Informaion -- Portland District, Maine Department of Manpower Affairs, 107 Elm Street, Portland, Maine 04104; telephone (207) 775-4141.

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